



CITY OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS  

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BOARD OF HEALTH

**FEBRUARY 6, 2019**

**A meeting of the Lowell Board of Health was held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 in the Mayor's Reception Room, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St., Lowell, MA 01852. Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.**

**Present:**

Jo-Ann Keegan, RN, MSN, Chairperson  
William Galvin, MD, Board Member  
Lisa Golden, RN, MSN, Board Member  
Kathleen Cullen-Lutter, RN, CNM, Board Member  
Kerran Vigroux, HHS Director  
Shawn Machado, Sr. Sanitary Code Director

2/6/2019 - Minutes

**1. New Business**

**1.I. For Acceptance:** Minutes Of The January 9, 2019 Meeting Of The Board Of Health.

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of the January 9, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Health made by Lisa Golden, seconded by William Galvin. All in favor.

**1. II. For Review:** Tobacco Control Monthly Report Submitted By Cesar Pungirum, Program Director.

The Board had no questions. Accepted and placed on file. Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan suggested that the article in the report on "How to Talk to Your Kids about Vaping" be shared with the School Nursing staff. Health & Human Services Director Kerran Vigroux will speak to Mr. Pungirum about doing that. Board Member William Galvin requested the Board be given a copy of the final product.

**1. III. Monthly Development Services Report** Submitted By Senior Sanitary Code Inspector Shawn Machado.

**Motion:** To take Agenda Articles 1.IV and 1.V out of order made by Lisa Golden, seconded by William Galvin. All in favor.

Upon return to order, Sr. Sanitary Code Inspector Shawn Machado reviewed the Monthly Development Services Report with the Board. The Board accepted the report and placed on file.

**1. IV. Update:** Lowell Public School Repairs.

Mr. Paul Georges, President, United Teachers of Lowell, gave the Board an updated list of Needed Repairs per Teacher Reports by School to be placed on the March 6, 2019 agenda.

Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan verbally reviewed for the members of the public present, the report on School Maintenance and Repair Updates by Christine Clancy, P.E., City Engineer to City Manager Eileen Donoghue and submitted to the Board by City Manager Donoghue. Board Member Galvin inquired on the time frame on repairs to the various school boilers and roofs and if the funding is included in the City's fiscal 2019 budget. City Manager Donoghue was present and addressed the question, noting that the City is aggressively applying for nine MSBA projects. Board Member Galvin inquired if the second boilers in the schools were there for redundancy. City Engineer Christine Clancy confirmed that fact.

A number of members of the public were present to speak to the Board.

Ms. Faith Salvas-Fregeau of Fulton St., Lowell, addressed the Board regarding her concerns for conditions at Lowell High School, noting the rodent issues and the leaking roof. Chairwoman Keegan noted the ongoing rodent control plans in place. Sr. Sanitary Code Inspector Shawn Machado also noted the frequency of inspections by the contractor Banner Pest Control and the improvement that has been made. Mr. Richard Kelly, owner of Banner Pest Control addressed the Board regarding ongoing pest control efforts and working with the school staff. City Manager Eileen Donoghue spoke regarding the roof repairs.

Christine Schultz, United Teachers of Lowell, addressed the Board regarding her concerns and what the Board's position was on the occupancy of the school buildings. Chairwoman Keegan responded that the Board's role is working with the owners of establishments with violations to have them corrected as soon as possible. City Manager Donoghue noted the efforts of the City to make needed repairs and Mr. Rick Underwood, LPS Facilities Manager spoke regarding ongoing maintenance efforts by his staff.

Various citizens also addressed the Board regarding their concerns. Chairwoman Keegan addressed the attendees regarding the Board's efforts to work with the City about repairs. Mr. Georges addressed the Board and noted their responsiveness. Mr. Georges also spoke about his contacting the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards which came into several schools and will be issuing a report. Manager Donoghue spoke regarding the City's concerns and efforts to assure the attendees that the City is working on repairs and funding. Manager Donoghue also expressed her appreciation of the attendees support and being on the same page.

Ms. Laura Ortiz, Lawrence St. Lowell MA, had questions for the Board regarding the Sanitary Code/Health Inspectors. Chairwoman Keegan addressed her questions regarding the Inspectors being at the High School and the State's Air Quality Control report and retesting.

Mr. Georges addressed the Board regarding his concerns for if a school needs to be shut down for safety or heating issues. Director Kerran Vigroux spoke about how issues should be reported to Development Services where the Inspectors are located. Mr. Underwood informed the Board that the bus company has been contacted regarding busing in the case of an emergency where students need to be relocated.

Board Member Galvin inquired about the plans if the funding from MSDA is received or not received. Manager Donoghue indicated it would be looked at dependent on what funding is approved.

**Motion:** to return to agenda item 1.III made by Lisa Golden, seconded by Kathleen Cullen-Lutter. All in favor.

**1. V. For Review:** School List of Items to Repair Submitted By Paul Georges, President, United Teachers of Lowell.

Item was reviewed with agenda item 1.IV.

**1. VI. For Review:** Body Art Apprentice License - New.

Body Art Apprentice License Application

Jeffrey Riel, 745 Westford St., Lowell, MA 01851    Blaqsheep Ink 564 Dutton St. Julio Pastrana

The Board reviewed the submitted application and noted additional Hepatitis B vaccinations are needed. Mr. Riel informed the Board that he is already scheduled to receive the next dose.

**Motion:** To approve the application once Mr. Riel complies with the stipulation that the results of a Hep B titer is positive or if a third shot is needed, it is completed made by William Galvin, seconded by Lisa Golden. All in favor.

**Motion:** To take agenda items 1.VIII and 2.1 out of order made by William Galvin, seconded by Lisa Golden. All in favor.

**1. VII. Discussion:** Medical Consultant Contract - Dr. Peter Connolly, MD.

Upon return to the regular agenda, the Board discussed the contract with Medical Consultant Dr. Peter Connolly, MD.

Ms. Vigroux recommends renewal of Dr. Connolly's contract and to not change the amount of the Contract. Additionally, Ms. Vigroux suggested a change to the section of the contract pertaining to invoicing.

**Motion:** To approve the renewal of Dr. Connolly's contract made by William Galvin, seconded by Kathleen Cullen-Lutter. All in favor.

**1. VIII. For Review:** Trinity EMS, Inc Reports.

Review of Trinity EMS, Inc. Monthly Opioid reports and Quarterly report.

Mr. Jon Kelley reviewed the reports with the Board. Chairwoman Keegan noted the TEMS Dispatch Error figures. Member Galvin noted the increase in the number of calls with Trinity EMS maintaining the response time of less than eight minutes, as well as the need to maintain the number of trucks to support the increase in the number of calls.

Mr. Kelley noted that the January monthly opioid report has the lowest numbers in quite a while.

The submitted Special Opioid Report was discussed and the number of "repeat" clients who overdose.

**2. Old Business**

**2. I. Discussion:** Ambulance Contract.

Chairwoman Keegan informed the Board that she has spoken to City Manager Donoghue who will direct the Law Department to guide the Board on the next steps. Member Galvin would recommend continuing the contract with Trinity and noted possible changes as well as integrating the addendums into the new contract.

Items noted by Member Galvin were:

Section 2 number 12: Should the section regarding the right to inspect include any subcontractors Trinity may have. Chairwoman Keegan asked if there would be a legal assumption that subcontractors would be included.

Section 5 number 4: Should the Board add the opioid crisis reports.

Section 7 number 1: Is the worker's compensation figure still appropriate.

Section 7 number 3: Is the amount of the bond still appropriate.

Dispatch Fee Schedule: Is the percentage going forward an appropriate amount to cover the Dispatch Center appropriate costs.

Trinity/Lowell General agreement Letter N: Is the amount still current or does it need to be updated. The Board asked that Trinity EMS forward an updated copy of the agreement.

Shawn Dean, Chief Paramedic, Greater Lowell Paramedics-LGH spoke of behalf of Amy Hoey, COO, LGH asking that the language in the Trinity EMS/LGH remain the same.

**Motion:** To recommend to the City Manager the renewal of the Trinity EMS contract with the noted changes made by William Galvin, seconded by Kathleen Cullen-Lutter. All in favor.

**Motion:** To return to agenda item 1.VII made by Lisa Golden, seconded by William Galvin. All in favor.

## **2. II. Update: Service Zone Plan.**

Update on the Status of the Service Zone Plan.

Ms. Vigroux updated the Board on the ongoing efforts with the Service Zone Plan and is working with Public Health Nurse Manager Colleen da Silva regarding changes requested by the State.

## **3. Director's Report**

### **3. I. Update: Divisional and Department Reports and Updates.**

Ms. Vigroux updated the Board on two new employees at the Health Department. Lauren Keisling has been hired as the Outreach Health Educator on the PFS Grant and Andres Gonzalez will be starting next week as the Syringe Collection Program Coordinator. Additionally, two school nurses positions have had offer letters sent out, two Substitute Nurses are being hired and interviews for a Public Health Nurse- Clinics are being held. Chairwoman Keegan noted that the School Nurse division has reached 100% vaccination compliance of non-exempt students and wanted to acknowledge their hard work.

**Motion:** To adjourn at 8:16 PM made by William Galvin, seconded by Lisa Golden. All in favor.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LOWELL BOARD OF HEALTH WILL BE HELD ON  
MARCH 6, 2019 AT 6:00 PM IN THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION ROOM.